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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,489	07/23/2003	Ralf Vierich	08005.0009	7822
22852	7590	08/18/2006	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			LIN, SHEW FEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2166	

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/624,489	Applicant(s) VIERICH ET AL.	
	Examiner Shew-Fen Lin	Art Unit 2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-10 and 12-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-10 and 12-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

- a. This action is responsive to amendment filed on 5/30/2006.
- b. Claims 1-4, 7-10, and 12-27 are pending. Claims 5, 6, and 11 have been cancelled and claims 22-27 have been added. Claims 1, 7, 12, and 17 are independent claims.

Specification

In view of the amendment to the specification, the Examiner withdraws the pending objection to the specification.

Withdrawal of Rejections/Objections

In view of the amendment to claims 1, 12, 14, 17, and 19, the Examiner withdraws the 101 rejection and 112 rejections. Applicant's arguments, with respect to "drill-through" and "drill-through path" have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 112 rejections of claims 1, 6, 7, 12, and 17 have been withdrawn.

Response to Amendment and Remarks

Applicant's amendments and remarks have been fully and carefully considered. In response, a new ground of claim analysis with respect to claims 1-4, 7-10, and 12-27 has been considered, but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

Regarding Applicant's arguments on page 18 that Bedell does not teach or suggest "wherein the definition of a drill-through path includes metadata" because Bedell merely states

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that “drill maps can be saved and loaded into a metadata repository as independent objects..”, therefore, Bedell doesn’t disclose that drill-through paths are defined using metadata. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

First, metadata is “data about data” (see Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 5th Edition, page 336). If a drill map is saved as metadata and can be shared between reports (column 31, lines 2-3), the drill map is defined by metadata. Second, Bedell discloses, “a drill map is an object that is saved into metadata as a separate object” (column 31, lines 2-3), i.e. drill map is defined by metadata. Furthermore, a drill map is a collection of drill paths (column 8, lines 7-8), therefore, Bedell teaches “the definition of a drill-through path includes metadata”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 7-10, and 12-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bedell et al. (US Patent 6,801,910, hereinafter referred as Bedell).

As to claims 1 and 7, Bedell discloses a system with methods /means / system of providing a drill-through service between drill-through objects (report service for drilling

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up/down/across reports, column 1, lines 64-67, column 9, lines 1-2, column 11, lines 6-10), the method comprising steps of:

- a) defining the drill-through objects at least in part by metadata (drill action objects, Figure 3, item 170, column 7, lines 35-36, drill action objects are included in drill path objects and drill path objects are defined by metadata, column 8, lines 4-8);
- b) creating one or more drill-through path definitions from one or more pair of the drill-through objects, using the metadata (define drill path in drill map using drill map editor, Figure 3, column 2, lines , column 7, lines 53-62, column 8, lines 8-12; drill map can be saved in metadata as a independent objects, column 8, lines 4-8, column 31, lines 2-3);
- c) collecting the drill-through path definitions in a data structure (drill path object, Figure 3, item 180, column 7, lines 53-54, collect drill paths in a drill map, column 8, lines 4-8) ; and
- d) creating a report based on the drill-through objects in a run-time environment using the collection of the drill-through path definitions in the data structure (execute report instance, drilling on instance based on selected path and filter, present report to user, Figures 4 and 5, column 2, lines 12-21, column 8, lines 55-57).

As to claims 2 and 8, Bedell discloses wherein the drill-through objects include data collections that are derived from different applications (column 4, lines 33-37).

As to claims 3 and 9, Bedell discloses wherein the drill-through path definitions are collected in a group of related data structures (drill path are collected by drill maps, Figure 3, column 26, lines 10-16, column 31, lines 1-6).

As to claims 4 and 10, Bedell discloses wherein the data collection includes data cubes and data-based reports, which are derived from different report generating applications (column 1, lines 33-37, lines 42-46).

As to claims 12 and 17, Bedell discloses a drill-through path administration method (report server for drilling data, column 1, lines 64-67) for use in a framework having a plurality of drill-through sources and drill-through targets (plurality of data source and result, Figure 1, items 108a/n and 114, column 4, lines 33-37, column 5, lines 10-13), the method comprising steps of:

- a) defining the drill-through sources and targets at least in part by metadata (drill action objects, Figure 3, item 170, column 7, lines 35-36, drill action objects are included in drill path objects and drill path objects are defined by metadata, column 8, lines 4-8);
- b) displaying the drill-through sources and targets (column 26, lines 10-16);
- c) accepting from a tool user an indication of the drill-through sources and targets for which a drill-through path is required (request drill, Figures 4 and 5, column 8, lines 60-67); and
- d) for each source for which a drill-through path is required: i) importing the source (Figure 4, item 300, column 8, lines 36-38); ii) for each drill-through path, associating the drill-through source and target using the metadata (drill path includes drill objects, column 7, lines 55-58); iii) collecting the drill-through path in a data structure (collect drill paths in a drill map, column 8, lines 4-8); iv) accepting from a tool user an indication to select one or more drill-through paths in the data structure (Figure 5, item 320, column 12, lines 35-39); v) accepting

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from a tool user an indication to edit the selected drill-through paths to select appropriate parameters (set filter property, Figure 5, item 324, column 13, lines 1-7); and vi) encapsulating the selected drill-through paths in a program library (object library, Figure 3, customer defined path, column 26, lines 23-33).

As to claims 13 and 18, Bedell discloses wherein the step of accepting from a tool user an indication of the drill-through sources and the drill-through targets for which a drill-through path is required uses a graphical user interface whereon the tool user draws lines connecting nodes representing the drill-through source and the drill-through target for the drill-through path (GUI is used to make selection, column 7, lines 62-67, column 8, lines 1-3).

As to claims 14 and 19, Bedell discloses wherein the step of associating comprises the step of determining automatically the drill-through paths for the required sources and targets (automatic find drill paths, Figure 4, item 308a, column 10, lines 39-43), the step of determining comprising the steps of

a) comparing the source and target parameter names of the drill-through source and target (compare the parameter selected by user with drill path, column 10, lines 30-35, lines 39-43, lines 49-51);

b) if the source and target parameter names match then establishing a mapping between the source and target parameters (select drill path if found in the drill map, column 11, lines 47-61); and

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c) if the source and target parameter names do not match (column 12, lines 16-19) then performing the steps of: i) searching for other information regarding the parameters which match and establishing one or more preliminary mappings between the source and target (column 11, lines 59-61); ii) presenting a tool user with a list of the one or more preliminary mappings from which to make a selection (use other drill map, column 11, lines 62-64, column 30, lines 60-63); iii) accepting from a tool user an indication to select from the list of the one or more preliminary mappings (column 11, lines 65-67); and iv) adding the selected preliminary mappings to the list of mappings established by matching parameter names (use other drill map, column 11, lines 65-67, column 30, lines 60-63).

As to claims 15 and 20, Bedell discloses wherein the program library is an entity selected from the group consisting of dynamically shared library, and plug-in (Figure 3, column 31, lines 1-6).

As to claims 16 and 21, Bedell discloses wherein the source comprises one or more databases or applications provided by a third party (interrogate a plurality of database or database array, column 3, lines 21-34).

As to claims 22 and 23, Bedell discloses wherein the drill-through objects include a drill-through source and a drill-through target (drill objects, column 7, lines 35-36, Figure 6, item 404), the drill-through path definition defining a path between the drill-through source and the drill-through target (column 7, lines 53-62).

As to **claims 24 and 26**, Bedell discloses further including the step of : accepting from a tool user an indication to edit the elected drill-through paths to add parameter mapping functions (user can select/add elements, column 10, lines 8-27).

As to **claims 25 and 27**, Bedell discloses wherein the step of encapsulating includes the step of encapsulating the selected and edited one or more drill-through paths in the program library (drill map objects are stored memory and shared between reports, Figure 3, column 6, lines 46-61, column 31, lines 1-6) .

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shew-Fen Lin whose telephone number is 571-272-2672. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shew-Fen Lin
Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2166
August 8, 2006


MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER